

January 7, 1882 Blade in new office.

Byron Phelps down with small pox at Moline.

Donoven's Original Tennesseans Concert, at Opera House.

January 14, 1882 McIntosh fresco painting, finest in County, at First National Bank.

Small pox at Towanda.

Canfield Troupe at the Opera House.

January 21, 1882 --"a happy pap" -- a boy

January 28, 1882 Dr. Bartlett to build a new residence on his lots next spring.

Rufus Huntoon, the artist, is at the Commercial House with samples of his portraits.

Hiram Sibley and Co.'s seed catalogue beautifully illustrated.

February 4, 1882 Andy Claudon assaulted by George Kuhlman with a knife. Claudon had a hatchet and beat him off. This was the third attempt. He was arrested on assault to kill, and jailed.

Dr. Bartlett bought 40 acres east of town for Dr. John Beach at \$65 an acre.

Nick Claudon of Danvers, Illinois, and Mollie Schertz of Peoria married. He is a brother of A.B. Claudon, and is visiting him.

February 11, 1882 John Steidinger died of typhoid.

Howarth's Hibernicon at the Opera House.

February 18, 1882 There was a wooden wedding party at William Fugate's Saturday. Mr. and Mrs. M.A. Fugate were the victims and the crowd had helped them celebrate was one of the jolliest that this section affords.

The old platform in front of the Fairbury House was removed this week. The street, so long blockaded by the railroad and buildings, is now open throughout, and will make one of the best residential streets in the city.

Vandals are using cemetery monuments as markers to shoot at.

M.A. Fugate started for their home at Hastings, Nebraska, Tuesday.

February 25, 1882 (Blade format changed: exchange at left of page.)

March 4, 1882 George Lewis of Ohio visited his brother, J.E. Lewis, this week.

Charles Perlee is building a new house on Fifth Street.

Huntoon, Fleming and Jones have put the interior of Beach and Dominy's Bank into elegant shape. It does ones eyes good to see such work as has been done there.

Dr. Rayburn fitting up rooms in new Walton building over the Independent Blade office.

Roller skating rink at McDowell Hall.

March 18, 1882 Forbes Dramatic Company in "Black Diamonds."

Ren Dominy to build a costly new house. To be an ornament to the city.

March 25, 1882 Waltons have cut a large door between the dry goods and millinery departments. They are utilizing the back end of the millinery for carpets. They will have the largest and best store in the county.

April 1, 1882 Mme. Fry Concert Company of Boston, a troupe of musicians.

J.E. Lewis is painting his house outside.

Work has been begun on Dr. Bartlett's new mansion.

T.A. Beach elected to the school board.

April 13, 1882 Mrs. J.E. Lewis went to Chicago Wednesday for a few days visiting.

Dr. Ostrander built a new picket fence in front of his house this week.

The Fairbury Cornet Band has busted. The members pulled straws for the furniture, and declared a dividend with the money. We thought they might reorganize, and didn't say anything about the rupture last week, but as the bust appears unanimous, there is no use of hiding it any longer.

The street commission filled the chuck holes on Main Street with cinders this week.

Tramp at Ren Dominy's steals a girl's coat.

April 22, 1882 Miss Olive Scibird left Bloomington this week for Del Norte, Colorado.

A thief cut a hole in J.E. Lewis' barn Saturday night and stole a lot of oats.

Dr. Ostrander has purchased the remainder of the half block in which he lives and will erect two nice residences.

Tip Cox was arrested on another complaint of Rhoda Hallock.

T.A. Beach and W.N. Combes left for Nebraska last Wednesday to look after their land interests there.

John McDowell held a soiree with a mule in the streets Monday. The mule seemed to have the biggest end of the fun.

April 29, 1882 William Hallock broke jail in Wellington, Kansas, in a cattle stealing case. He was recaptured.

George Lewis, brother of J.E. Lewis and well known here, was reported sick with the measles early in the week at his home in Ohio.

The Honorable E.C. Lewis, of New Philadelphia, Ohio, brother of J.E. Lewis of this city, was married on the 26th instant to a daughter of Judge Olds of Columbus, and is expected here today.

May 6, 1882 T.A. Beach and W.N. Combes returned Monday night from the West well pleased with their trip.

Honorable E.C. Lewis and bride, of Ohio, spent last Saturday and Sunday with J.E. Lewis in this city. Mr. Lewis is a genial gentleman, and was highly pleased with the thrifty appearance of our little city. We hope that fortune may drift him this way again.

May 13, 1882 The young ladies of the M.E. Society to hold a Doll Fair, and a strawberry and ice cream festival at the Opera House. The funds will be given to the tower fund of the M.E. Church.

May 20, 1882 Mundt's Jewelry Store is being painted.

Doll Fair Receipts \$35.

Presbyterian Church dedicated.

May 27, 1882 Batcheller and Doris great inter-ocean circus. Monster millionaire menagerie.

T.A. Beach and family were among the visitors from this city, at the musical festival at Chicago this week.

June 3, 1882 Florence Herbert Co. played "Ruth Tredgett, the Female Tramp" to a crowded house.

Dr. Ostrander is out again after a severe attack of fever.

June 10, 1882 L.B. Dominy's house is almost completed and looks well.

Dr. Fraley moved to the Straight Building.

Two tough looking cusses claiming to be the James brothers came into the Blade office.

Pontiac Reform School walking shoes at Taylor's.

June 17, 1882 (Advertisements improving and take more space.)

Miss Ella Beach left Thursday morning for Bainbridge, Ohio, for an extended visit.

Dr. Bartlett's new residence is going up rapidly, and, when finished, will embrace every convenience.

(1882 – 1883 file missing at the Blade office.)

May 16, 1883

A Notable Wedding

Society has been on the qui vive for some time past in anticipation of the wedding of Miss Ella Beach, only daughter of our wealthy citizen, T.A. Beach, and Dr. George Lewis, of Ohio, brother of Mr. J.E. Lewis, a well known and well to do member of this community. The high standing of the bride and groom, both wealthy and very amiable young people, created the unusual interest incident to this occasion, and on Wednesday evening when the event transpired, to which but few were invited, the streets and grounds around the mansion of Mr. Beach were filled with an eager throng of people, anxious to gain a sight of the happy couple. Everything that wealth could supply was in use to add to the pleasure of the occasion. At 9 o'clock the couple took their places in the spacious room under the beautiful floral arch, in which hung a magnificent floral marriage bell, made of carnations and rosebuds, where Reverend E.S. Wilson, Pastor of the M.E. Church of this city, pronounced the rites which united the destinies of this favored pair. The bride was richly attired in white mull with handmade lace and natural flowers. The bride's dress was imported from Paris. The bridegroom wore the regulation costume of black with white gloves and tie. They presented a pleasant picture as they responded clearly to the interrogatories of the officiating minister. Congratulations followed, when the guests partook of a delicately prepared wedding supper, from the hands of the best culinary artists in Chicago. After supper the guests dispersed, and Mr. Lewis and bride took the 12 o'clock night train for Chicago, from whence they go to Millersburg, Ohio, where Mr. Lewis is located in the practice of medicine.

A number of guests from abroad were present: Mrs. Abby Jones, Columbus, Ohio, Mr. and Mrs. Art Marsh, Jacksonville, Illinois, Miss Davis of Whitehall, Illinois, Mr. McFerran, of Hoopston, Mr. and Mrs. B.M. Stoddard, Minonk, Illinois.

The presents were very nice and appropriate. The following is a list with the names of donors: Handsome French marble clock with bronze bust on top, Mrs. Dr. C.C. Bartlett, Miss Emma Bartlett and J.E. Lewis and wife; gold line silver ice set, B.M. Stoddard and wife; book, Dr. F.C. Larrimore, Ohio; China plaque, Miss Gertie Roberts; a pair of gold bracelets, G.C. Lewis; a handsome, elegantly illustrated copy of "Evangeline," accompanied with cards, W.H. Taylor and wife, and W.S. and H.B. Taylor of Ohio; fine bedspread, Mrs. S.H. Beach; silver jewel casket, Mr. and Mrs. Art March of Jacksonville, and Miss Davis of Whitehall; silver and cut glass tea service, H. Kingman and wife, H.M. Gillette and wife, and B.E. Robinson and wife; silver and cut glass toilet bottle, very fine, L.B. Dominy, wife and daughters; elegant fan, G.W. Winters and wife; silver and glass bouquet holder, Mrs. E.S. Wilson; silk and lace pincushion, Miss Katie McDowell; silver and glass celery stand, A.C. Bartlett and wife; silver syrup jar, Dr. Dan Brewer and wife; silver and glass celery stand, Mrs. W.T. Whitmore; set cut glass tumblers, H.H. Bright and wife of Omaha; silver and glass fruit stand, C.L. Perlee and wife and H.B. Perlee; pair of fruit dishes, Mrs. Abby Jones of Columbus, Ohio; paper holder, Miss Annie Lewis; gold lined silver table service, T.A. Beach and wife.

The floral decorations about the house were very beautiful and were made of choicest flowers. A large horseshoe hung in the hallway, and a globe was suspended from the chandelier in the

parlor. This event will long be remembered by our citizens, who join in congratulations to the bride and groom.

The cake was very fine, as the printers can testify, as it was so good the editor took it all home.

June 23, 1883 Mrs. Dr. Bartlett has laid flagstone walks around the east side of her elegant mansion.

(New format of Blade: Six column quarto. Still Ed Scibird, editor)

June 30, 1883 Tommy Beach has caught the bicycle fever, and it is not altogether impossible that he will not enter the race on the Fourth. Some of the boys say that Tommy has rigged up his wheelbarrow with treadles and utilizes these moonlight nights – from 2 to 4 A.M. – getting accustomed to the motion.

Odell check rower factory for Fairbury. Company of James H. Odell and sons, H. Kingman and Walton Bros.

July 7, 1883 The boys at Walton's mill turn a jet of steam in rat holes and mash the half scalded rodents as they crawl out of the holes. They actually bag one rat out of a possible ten.

Levi Odell went to Chicago for machinery for the factory.

July 14, 1883 Dr. George Lewis of Ohio, who wedded Miss Ella Beach a few months since, will locate in this city to practice medicine. They were expected to arrive yesterday.

Three little kids, nine or ten years old, took Dominy's old family horse from the stable Wednesday morning and did not return him until around midnight. The three rode him pretty much all over the country and reports from a farmer south of town says they stole a saddle out of a farmer's stable – to keep the horse's back from getting sore. Dominy camped in his barn to catch them when they returned, intending, as he said, "to make d-d good boys of them or poor angels." He, however, got tired before the boys did and went home before the horse was brought back.

Dr. George Lewis and wife arrived last week. The doctor has opened an office over Schenk's bakery in the rooms formerly occupied by Dr. Rayburn. The Doctor is a graduate of the Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio, and of Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York City.

We made a short call at the office of Dr. Lewis Thursday, and found him nicely located and very sociable. He has a number of curiosities of much interest, among which is a very powerful microscope with a number of objects for examination, forming in them a fine study. The Doctor has a fine library and a very complete case of surgical instruments, and seems well fitted to make the practice of his profession both pleasant and profitable.

August 4, 1883 Newt Fulton and Ed Scibird were in Chicago the first of the week.

September 1, 1883 T.A. Beach is putting inside blinds in his fine dwelling house.

Daily Independent Blade. Fair Edition. Full page advertisement for G. Stoller's Dry Goods store using every kind of type in the shop.

Defense of Frank James in his trial. His relatives claim that he is a "persecuted saint."

September 5, 1883 George McCabe of Chicago was in the city yesterday, visiting friends.

September 15, 1883 Professional card (had appeared before): G.C. Lewis, M.D., Physician and Surgeon. Office one door west of Zimmerman and Co.'s Drug Store upstairs. Residence with T.A. Beach.

German Camp meeting at McDowell.

Check rower factory. Kingman and Company of Peoria will use 2000 during the year. The factory will employ from fifteen to twenty men this winter to turn out 2500 by spring. They have taken the premium at every fair they have been shown.

September 22, 1883 Smoke the "Marble Beauty."

Mrs. T.A. Beach has gone to Cincinnati to visit friends and see the exposition.

Jerome and C.H. Odell exhibiting check rowers.

September 29, 1883 Hunter T. Lewis of Millersburg, Ohio, brother of J.E. Lewis, accompanied by this nephew, Harry B. Lewis, of Mount Vernon, Ohio, visited in this city from Friday to Monday. The first named gentleman was on his way home from Kansas where he has purchased a large cattle ranch.

Boys hitting girls riding in buggies across the shoulders. The miscreants should be punished.

October 6, 1883 Sorghum factory.

October 13, 1882 Serenades – bad ones – around again.

October 28, 1883 The saloons in this city began running on a cash basis Tuesday. Nobody can give his finger for drinks now.

Two awfully drunk fellows, whose names we were unable to learn, were hauled home on a wheelbarrow Monday night.

November 3, 1883 W.T. Stackpole is making a strong impression by his persistent efforts in working up the completion of the canal from Lake Michigan to the Illinois River. He is an indefatigable worker, and we hope that his labors will be rewarded by the ultimate completion of the canal.

Oyster sociable, M.E. Church.

November 10, 1883 J.E. Lewis is laying a flagstone walk.

December 1, 1883 Harry Bartlett is clerking in the stove department of Henry Kingman's.

The "stuffed club" gang was busy around the Opera House Thursday night, and the victims were many.

A horse belonging to Will Nimmo fell into an open well on the McDowell lots west of the Fairbury House Thursday evening. He was dragged out by hard work, and will probably get along alright. Mr. McDowell should cover up that well, as it is very dangerous in that locality.

Jimmy Taylor arrested for disturbing Holiness meeting at McDowell Hall.

December 8, 1883 Jimmy Taylor case dismissed.

December 15, 1883 Charles Odell, on the road selling check rowers, came home as they have all the orders they can fill.

December 22, 1883 Advertisement: Red top boots for little boys, very nice. Merit's Fairbury Shoe Store.

December 29, 1883 Free Methodist church formed from the Holiness meetings.

January 5, 1884 Gilbo Bros. gave a dance at McDowell Hall on New Year's Eve.

(Blade has Society directory column.)

Fairbury men have about given up the custom of New Year's calls.

January 12, 1884 Walton fire sale.

George Franzen living in Dakota.

January 26, 1884 George Franzen employed by Chicago News as a compositor.

February 2, 1884 Ad Cooley's skating rink in McDowell Hall opened with a costume party.

February 9, 1884 Two fights are reported a shaving taken place among the rough who congregate about the M.E. Church during the meetings in progress there. These young loafers should have decency enough to behave themselves in the neighborhood of a church, and if they will persist in being outside a church, they had much better be on the inside where the good example of the members might guide them into paths of rectitude.

February 15, 1884 A small colony of Germans, number about 75 people, just from the "Faderland" landed in Fairbury Monday and Tuesday.

Ed Scibird was in Bloomington to visit his brother Frank who is very ill with lung fever.

March 1, 1884 Frank Scibird dead.

March 8, 1884 T.A. Beach is building a twenty-foot addition to Perlee's store room.

March 22, 1884 Much malaria around.

Three pound pie peaches 10 cents at Kingston's.

March 29, 1884 Soiree at Presbyterian Church. Refreshments served: hot biscuits and honey, maple syrup, coffee and chocolate, old fashioned and modern doughnuts. Literary program to be given. Music by quartette.

April 5, 1884 Newt Fulton left for Beatrice, Nebraska, Tuesday in quest of fortune.

The public telephone station in this city was moved from Zimmerman's Drug Store to Dr. Rayburn's office.

The habit of dragging dead animals out and half burning them at the roadside ought to be stopped. A stiff fine would probably work a change in this matter.

The town sidewalks are being repaired. They are kept in a fine state.

April 19, 1884 T.A. Beach went with other business men to Nebraska.

April 26, 1884 Schnetzler Bros., Junk Dealers. Second hand.

May 10, 1884 T.A. Beach purchased the O.P. McDowell farm north east of town for \$37.50 per acre. This farm adjoins Mr. Beach's farm on the east, and contains 156 acres. William Stackpole went to Cincinnati for a dredging machine.

May 17, 1884 Skating rink at the Opera House.

May 24, 1884 Stackpole real estate business taken over by Murdock.

May 31, 1884 "Gunther's Chicago Mead – a most delicious drink."

Dr. Ostrander is to build a new house.

June 7, 1884 Taylor's Dry Goods Store sold.

June 14, 1884 \$200 fireworks for the Fourth.

Henry Kingman has bought a large farm near Council Grove, Kansas.

June 21, 1884 John and Grant McDowell, George Decker, and George Hood were tried in Pontiac for breaking up a Holiness meeting. The jury disagreed and the case was continued.

Dr. Ostrander was delegate to the Prohibition Convention in Bloomington.

July 19, 1884 INDEPENDENT BLADE SOLD TO C. E. CARTER.

Tommy Beach went to Chicago for a few days.

July 26, 1884 Ed Scibird Debt Collection notice.

Walton Mill Burns

Last Saturday morning at 1:45 the alarm of fire was sounded by officer Redd. Hardly was it sounded before Walton Bros. grist mill was enveloped in flames. The flames leaped across the street and set fire to the large mercantile establishment of Walton Bros. It also jumped across the railroad tracks and set fire to the stockyards of Combes and McDonald, the blacksmith shop of George Westervelt, Odell's Checkrow factory, J.R. Smith's Commission store and Decker's lumber office. The fire engine would not work and the fire had to burn itself out. Walton Bros. loss on stock and building, \$125,000. Others burned out were: J.D. Hornbeck restaurant; Mrs. Chas. Sheley, dressmaking; J.M. Hovey, photographer; Joerias Yoe, saloon; M.J. Thompson, harness shop; Mrs. D. Kelly, Milliner; A.W. Zane, store building; Louis Werling, store building; C.B. Thompson, sewing machines; Moore Sisters, dressmakers; John Hinkle, restaurant; J.B. Lawrence, shoe shop; Maple Bros., harness shop; Gilbe and Hutson, marble dealers; W.C. Tresige, photographer; J.L. Marsh, building. Total losses about \$200,000.

August 2, 1884 Ben Walton moves to California.

Ed Scibird goes to Del Norte, Colorado.

Henry Kingman family goes.

August 9, 1884 Holiness Church to be erected on lot just north of Ramsey's Drug Store.

August 23, 1884 William Stackpole back from Cincinnati. Results of his agitation.

M.A. Fugate of Hastings, Nebraska, arrived yesterday to see his father, who died a few hours after his arrival.

August 30, 1884 There are always some real, smart, bright boys in every town. Fairbury has one or two in this class who are so bright that you have to look at them through smoked glass.

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William Fugate Obituary (Part)

One of his daughters went before him to the glory world saying, "Pa will come soon." He was converted in Tippecanoe County, Indiana, and joined the United Brethern Church. He was a consistent Christian, kind husband, affectionate father and excellent citizen. He left a wife, three sons, one daughter, and six grandchildren.

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September 6, 1884 Abe Filley left for Chicago Thursday night, and will remain until after the State Fair, being employed as one of the carpenters.

September 19, 1884 George Franzen is assisting the Fair secretary.

October 2, 1884 The Temperance people have the timber on the ground near the depot for a temperance pole to be erected soon. It will be about 100 feet high and will be surmounted by a large gilded ball. A beautiful streamer and flag will also be floated to the breezes from it.

October 16, 1884 Dr. C.B. Ostrander and John Amsler have presented an organ to the Christian church.

The National Conference of the German Apostolic church convened in Fairbury, Tuesday and Wednesday. There were five or six hundred delegates present from all parts of the United States. Rev. John Steidinger resident minister of the Fairbury congregation presided.

October 23, 1884 Harry Bartlett is going with Ida Kingman.

October 30, 1884 There is much kicking because the city lamp lighters don't keep the street lamps lighted.

Miss Ollie Filley spent Sunday with friends in Forrest.

November 6, 1884 John Will McDowell owned the Avoca tile factory.

Abe Filley and Smith Veatch returned Saturday from the Southern part of the state, and closed their pilgrimage there, having "done" all the fairs of that locality, serving the good people with cool and refreshing drinks all for five.

November 20, 1884 Dr. Lewis rejoiceth because a young son occupies a prominent position in his household since Wednesday of last week. No doubt the echoes his father's sentiments and shout for Cleveland and democracy. Tommy Beach, its grandpa, says that he knows something about flowers but this is the sweetest cherub that has ever been imported into his presence. "Dance it on your knee, Grandpa; dance it on your knee."

December 4, 1884 Grant McDowell is attending Onarga Business College.

Dr. Ostrander has some 2000 dozen eggs which he will soon spring on the market. Some of them are quite ancient, being over two years old. The entire lot is in one barrel and preserved in a preparation known only to the good doctor. He ventures to make the assertion that the whole lot is in as good and healthy a condition as when first gathered from the nest. Yea, the doctor is a good man to keep hen fruit.

Ramsey respectfully invited you to pay your debts.

There is a lady named _____, when skating, she glides with great glee; it makes her hustle to keep her big bustle from crawling right up to her ear.

Tuesday noon Walton Bros. commenced building a mill on the site of the one recently destroyed by fire.

Maple Bros. are moving into their new building today.

DuBois opera house has been converted into a roller skating rink.

Schnetzler Bros. have opened up a broom factory in the west end.

December 11, 1884 All of those knowing themselves indebted to me will please call and settle up before the close of the present year. G.D. Lewis MD.

December 18, 1884 I.P. McDowell presents his son John with a gold watch upon his majority.

Stackpole agitating the canal in LaSalle, Ill.

December 25, 1884 There does not appear to be any good reason why Fairbury should forever rank as a village, when smaller and less important places have the prestige and benefits of city organization.

Newt Fulton has accepted a position as clerk on the B. and M. road, and is stationed at Wymore, Neb.

(The Blade put out a big Holiday Supplement with many pictures.)

January 8, 1885 They had what they call a "turkey race" at Duell's rink Saturday night, in which a poor lone turkey was turned loose on the floor and a number of blind folded skaters were also turned loose after the turkey. It was not "blind man's bluff", but might consistently be called "blind turkey's bluff", the one who succeeded in capturing the poultry, to be the sole and undisputed owner of the same. There was much merriment for all save the turkey – poor thing – how they did "feel" for it.

The German school, under the management of the Apostolic Church, is doing good work and meeting with liberal success. Those who are desirous of mastering the German language should avail themselves of this opportunity by attending.

January 15, 1885 (Papers full of editorial gripes.)

Three electric test lights are being put up on Main Street. If they prove a success, a stock company will be formed.

January 22, 1885 L.J. Odell has invented a corn planter.

(There has been a run, for some weeks, of silly roller skating paragraphs by George Franzen)

February 5, 1885. Blindfold hugging at the church socials in the neighboring towns. The men sometimes got their own wives.

One of the greatest blizzards since 1866 has raged over Illinois the past week. For seven days there were no trains over the T.P.&W. and the first mail train to reach Forrest from Chicago got through this morning. Every man and boy who can handle a shovel have been employed by the Wabash to shovel snow, and many walked from this place to Forrest to assist in getting the passenger trains out of the drifts. The storm started with thunder, lightning and rain and finally turned into a terrific blizzard, drifting the snow housetop high.

Last Saturday was pay day at the Walton coal shaft. The extreme cold weather of the past month has been a harvest for the miners, the payroll for the past thirty days amounting to nearly \$2,000.

February 12, 1885 Tommy Beach intends leaving for New Orleans Saturday.

March 4, 1885 Milk 5 cents a quart.

March 19, 1885 Messer's R.C. Straight and Tommy Beach who have been spending a couple of weeks at the Worlds Exposition in New Orleans, returned last week, greatly pleased with their trip. They speak in the highest terms of the exposition and the accommodations in the way of board, lodging, etc.

March 26, 1885 Tommy Beach purchased this week of Pence, the furniture man, a handsome swan's head baby carriage, a present for his grandson.

(The tone of the Blade has much deteriorated.)

Obituary of John L. Marsh, founder of Fairbury. He sunk the pioneer coal mine in the open prairie in the state.

(Carter's grammar is bad, and his sentence structure is terrible)

Mrs. John Perlee of Ohio is visiting Fairbury relatives.

April 9, 1885 The roller skating craze is declining.

Mr. and Mrs. T.A. Beach and Mrs. John Perlee and son Harry, went Tuesday to Chicago, to attend the opera festival.

(Wonder what Carter did before he became an editor?)

At the election for two members of the board of education held last Saturday, T.A. Beach and O.S. Westervelt were re-elected without opposition. 125 votes were polled.

Fire

It was discovered at 4 AM O'Mally's saloon and McKiernan's saloon were both in flames and beyond control. The buildings joined each other. Merit and sons shoe store was on the West, and Greenbaum's clothing store on the east. Merit's store, except the front, was saved. Had it burned, Beach and Dominy's bank, Murdock's law office, and the post office block would have gone.

(Greenbaum's was a brick building, and next to it was Stoller's dry goods store.)

April 16, 1885 A love feast will be held at the M.E. church on next Sunday morning before the regular services, and the sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be administered at the end of the sermon.

John Conerus cigar factory used an empty jug to smooth out wrappers. Five men worked at a big table and made 6000 first quality cigars a week.

The lyceum of last Friday evening. "The essay of Dr. Lewis on the use and abuse of alcohol" brought out many new and surprising points, which was greatly appreciated by the audience.

George Franzen of the Blade force is on the sick lit this week.

Tommy Beach is acting in the capacity of cashier at Stoller's this week.

Letter to paper wanting a nice fence for cemetery before next Decoration Day.

April 30, 1885 Monday morning the old carriage horse of Ren Dominy which has done faithful service in his family for these many years, shuffled off this mortal soil and now sleeps amid the daisies, age 27 years.

(Fairbury Juvenile Band.)

May 7, 1885 (Blade to be issued twice a week.)

May 12, 1885 A movement is on foot for the town to purchase the cemetery.

There is always a crowd of loafers on Sundays from Katz's store to the corner east, under the old wooden awnings. The whittle up store boxes.

May 15, 1885 The Cemetery plat contains six acres owned by a man from Rockford, Ill. The Cemetery trustees are to meet to discuss buying it for \$600, they are to put up a picket fence the entire length, a handsome driveway will be made.

May 19, 1885 Miss Strawn, of Odell, was the guest of Miss Ollie Filley, Sunday and Monday.

May 22, 1885 The (third) Annual graduating exercises of the High School were held in DuBois Opera House where it seemed that the whole of our populace had gathered to witness the event. The two graduates, Miss Ida Hallock and Ollie M. Filley, together with Revs. Crewes and Watt, T.A. Beach, president of the school board, and Prof. Carmichael occupied the stage, which was tastily decorated with plants and flowers, among which was a beautiful horse shoe, the work of Mrs. B.E. Robinson. Rev. Watt opened the exercises with prayer. The orchestra was composed of members from the city band and Gilbo's String band, assisted by Miss Stillwell on the piano, and the secktuibs rendered are deserving of special mention. Miss Hillock's subject, "The Veil is Lifting," was very good and appropriate to the occasion. Miss Ollie Filley's essay, "Neath the Tyrants Yoke the People Languish", was quiet well delivered. The subjects widely differed, but both elicited general applause and the young ladies were the recipients of more floral offerings than they could well manage. Prof. Carmichael made a few neat and fitting remarks, and during the applause which followed, President Beach hastened to take advantage of it to make his "speech" and to present the diplomas. The benediction by Rev. Crewes closed the exercises, and all went home well pleased with the evening's entertainment.

May 26, 1885 Over 300 loads of filth have already been taken from our streets and alleys, and still the good work goes on.

May 29, 1885 "East Lynne" at Opera House.

The ladies who constitute the committee on Flowers for Decoration Day are requested to meet at the residence of Mrs. John Zimmerman tomorrow afternoon at 2 PM to prepare wreaths and banners.

Gertie Gregg, ten years old, was given a birthday party.

Al Bartlett, Elmer McDowell, Tommy Beach, George Scrivens, Harry Perlee, George Cramer and Osmer McDowell were at Custer on a fishing tour. We hoped the boys would deal gently and kindly with Tommy, and while we had a great amount of confidence in their doing so, we still feared for his fate and prayed for his safe return.

June 5, 1885 Butter 9 cents lb.

June 19, 1885 The best equipped serenading party of the season was out last Friday night in full force, consisting of several young ladies, a gentleman, an organ, and several other instruments all occupying places in a large wagon arranged for the purpose and brilliantly lighted with torches. The music they made was excellent.

June 26, 1885 Immense sale of popular corsets, ladies and misses at Beach Bros. and Co.

The midnight serenaders still sing their merry lays, and the reorganizing of the stuffed club gang has been suggested to put a quietus to this merciless torture. Patience ceases to be.

June 30, 1885 (Blade now semi-weekly and four pages. \$1.50 a year, in advance. Printed by steam power)

The little girls who are to represent the states on the Fourth, and who desire to ride, will meet at Mrs. John Zimmerman's tomorrow afternoon at 4 o'clock. All come.

July 3, 1885 Ads: Grand Central Dry Good Store.
Walton Bros. Palace of Trade.
You are doing wrong if you don't price parasols at
Beach Bros. and Co. They take the lead as usual.

A new patent granted to Levi Odell for a new corn planter.

Mr. H. Bartlett and wife of St. Joe, Mo. have been visiting Mr. T.A. Beach's people.

July 14, 1885 Juvenile Band of Fairbury to play at Custer Park.

J.E. Lewis has purchased the vacant lot just north of his residence, and is clearing away the hedge and otherwise making improvements on the place.

Judge McDowell's fine driving nag broke out of pasture and got into that of an infuriated cow. It was hooked with her horns and killed almost instantly.

M.E. Sunday School picnic. Several hundred children went to Taylor's Grove where they had swings and croquet sets. They took their own dinners but had free lemonade. The Juvenile Band furnished the music.

July 24, 1885 The girls are dressing their hair in a new style these days. They twist their hair up into two rolls and place them on top of their head just above the ears. It must be seen to be appreciated.

July 28, 1885 Sells Brothers Circus.

July 31, 1885 Complaint about the profanity and foul language about the depot.

August 7, 1885 Duell's Skating rink.

August 14, 1885 The big ditch on the north side is to be retiled. For several blocks along this ditch grow willow trees, the roots of which have grown into the tile, filling them up and causing a stoppage of the flow of surplus water. The trees will have to be exterminated.

(Fairbury was very cold to strangers locating here.)

August 18, 1885 The gas machine for L.B. Dominy's new residence arrived last Saturday.

A certain genius has invented a rubber oyster for church festival use. It is warranted to be tooth proof, and after being once sucked, can be washed off and dropped into another bowl for the next sucker. Verily the world moves on.

"Mrs. Filley always has a crowd", some one remarked Thursday evening at the sociable, and certainly this was no exception to the rule. The genial hospitality of the family made everyone feel at home. Receipts over \$20. They are to go for repairs on the parsonage.

Tommy Beach has tired of pumping water by muscular power, and has erected a windmill on his residence property, which will hereafter do the work.

(No more semi-weekly.)

August 28, 1885 George Franzen in Blade office.

Mr. Henry Kingman living in Council Grove, Kans.

September 4, 1885 Tommy Beach has put in a gas machine at his residence, and no more burns kerosene and candles.

Odell check rower factory burned. It originated in the stove. It is the third time they have been burned out. They will rebuild at once.

The T.P.&W. depot is to enlarge and be painted.

"When completed, Mr. Dominy will have a residence fit for one who sits upon a throne and wear a crown, and the Blade wishes him a world of comfort and pleasure within its stately walls, as well as a head that never lies uneast and a boot that never discommodes a corn."

September 18, 1885 Juvenile Band busted up.

Ozro Cook returned from Colo. And reports the family of Ed. Scibird in good health and highly pleased with their western home. Ed is employed in a large house furnishing establishment in Colorado Springs.

September 25, 1885 Our police are doing good work on the streets. The "dizzy blondes" have been ordered off main street during the day and are compelled to leave town at night. Good enough.

(A daily Blade issued during Fair.)

October 2, 1885 Dr. Ostrander contemplates a visit to Florida in the near future.

T.A. Beach now rides in the Handsomest buggy in the city. It was made expressly for him by A. Dahler, and the workmanship throughout is of the very best.

Mrs. C.C. Bartlett is visiting her daughter, Mrs. Hiatt B. Taylor, at Bryan, O.

October 16, 1885 P.C. James of Texas will have another car load of western horses in Fairbury in a few days.

October 30, 1885 The saloon keepers are red headed. Some of them propose to have every business closed on Sunday now that they have got the worst of it.

November 6, 1885 Several hundred feet of those beautiful corn cribs will hereafter grace the square on Main street, east of the democratic pole. Fairbury is a live town for improvements (?)

Dr. C.B. Ostrander returned this week from their Michigan trip, and will leave in a few days for Bronson, Fla., to spend the winter. They will return to Fairbury the latter part of Feb. next.

Moore's Calcishromapticon entertainment at the hall for the benefit of the Catholic society. (Stereopticon views to you.)

As one of our bloods was sitting on the steps of a Paducah Ave. residence last Sunday evening beside his loved one, he claimed the right to kiss for every shooting star. She at first demurred, as became a modest maiden, but finally yielded. She was even so accommodating as to call his attention to flying meteors that were about to escape his attention, and at last got him down to steady work on the light of a lantern that a brakeman was swinging about the depot in the distance where the stock train was switching. Isn't that about right, Frank?

Percy James drove his herd of ponies to Chenoa Wednesday.

Abe Filley is on duty at the Fat Stock Show.

The Ancient Order of Hiberians will give a ball.

November 13, 1885 Last Tuesday, O. Gilbo, the marble man, hired "Wabash", the teamster, to convey a monument across the Vermillion River. They started out bright and early, little dreaming what a few hours might bring forth. The roads being almost impassable and their journey long, they decided to take a short cut and ford the river. They started in, and had proceeded but a short

distance when the wagon sank to the bottom. They both jumped out and managed to get to dry land, not, however, until the driver had "gone down" the second time. They liberated the team which they drove, but the wagon and contents are still in the "bottom of the deep" safely anchored to a big elm tree.

November 27, 1885 Dr. G.C. Lewis and J.E. Lewis received the sad intelligence that their father had died of a paralytic stroke after ten days.

December 4, 1885 W.G. McDowell and family will leave in a few days for Washington D.C. to spend the winter.

December 11, 1885 Perlee and Bro.

December 18, 1885 Hi Taylor store in Bryan, O.

Girl's club: The Busy Twelve.

The furniture for L.B. Dominy's residence came from Chicago Wed.

December 25, 1885. Dominy's have moved in.

The dinner party given by T.A. Beach Thursday evening of last week was a marked stroke of liberality and completeness, in itself worthy of commendation. Some 25 of his near neighbors sat down to a table fairly groaning with every luxury possible in the line of eatables, from a pair of superbly cooked turkey to almost everything to be thought of by the most fastidious epicure. The house was lighted throughout the party, the gas jets presenting brilliancy almost enchanting. No attempt was made at snobbery, but everything was conducted with "decency and order".